

Message Text

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NAIROBI FOR USDEL UNEP GC II

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO USAEC GERMANTOWN
FROM IAEA VIENNA 06 MAR 74:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IAEA VIENNA 2002

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, SENV

SUBJ: UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING

1. IAEA SECRETARIAT HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED AND STUDIED
AGENDA PAPERS FOR MARCH 11 SECOND SESSION OF UNEP
GOVERNING COUNCIL IN NAIROBI. NONE OF THE PAPERS
RELATING TO "ENERGY" HAD BEEN CLEARED OR DISCUSSED IN
ADVANCE WITH IAEA. AGENCY WAS, FOR INSTANCE, UNAWARE
THAT UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAD CONSULTED WITH
"DISTINGUISHED GROUP OF SCIENTISTS" OR THAT VIEWS OF
THIS GROUP HAD BEEN INCORPORATED IN PAPERS FOR
PRESENTATION AT THE SESSION (UNEP/GC/14/ADD.1 AND
UNEP/GC/14/ADD.2). DISTURBED BOTH BY THE LACK OF
PRIOR CONSULTATION AS WELL AS SOME OF THE CONTENT OF
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THESE DOCUMENTS. IAEA SECRETARIAT ASKED BOARD OF

GOVERNORS CHAIRMAN FUJIYAMA (JAPAN) TO CONVENE MEETING AFTERNOON MARCH 5 OF PERMREPS OF COUNTRIES SERVING BOTH ON IAEA BOARD AND UNEP GOVERNING COUNCIL. PRESENT WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF US, USSR, UK, FRG, FRANCE, AUSTRALIA, JAPAN AND AUSTRIA, TOGETHER WITH IAEA SECRETARIAT HALL, FISCHER, WOJCIK. SECRETARIAT REVIEWED SITUATION WITH PERMREPS, NONE OF WHOM HAD PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF CONTENTS OF UNEP PAPERS.

2. RESULT OF MEETING WAS CONCURRENCE BY ALL PRESENT THAT AGENCY SEND CABLE TO STRONG (TEXT BELOW) EXPRESSING AGENCY'S CONCERNS AND ASKING STRONG EITHER TO WITHDRAW SECTION OF REPORT RELATING TO NUCLEAR ENERGY TO ALLOW FOR CONSULTATION OR REQUESTING THAT AGENCY SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS BE CIRCULATED TO GOVERNING COUNCIL. AGENCY ALSO REQUESTED ITS REPRESENTATIVE BE ALLOWED FLOOR AT COUNCIL MEETING TO STATE AGENCY'S POSITION.

3. PERMREPS ALSO AGREED RECOMMEND THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS SUPPORT AGENCY REQUEST TO STRONG FOR EITHER WITHDRAWAL OR EQUAL TIME.

4. COMMENT: MISSION'S PERUSAL OF UNEP DOCUMENTS IN QUESTION LEAD US TO FULLY ENDORSE AGENCY VIEW THAT THEY REPRESENT SOMETHING LESS THAN A BALANCED APPRAISAL OF THE ENERGY SITUATION OR OF SOLUTIONS TO IT. THE AGENCY'S CHARACTERIZATION OF PORTIONS OF THE DOCUMENTS "AS INCOMPLETE, MISLEADING AND RATHER ALARMIST PRESENTATION RELATING TO NUCLEAR ENERGY" IS CERTAINLY NOT OVERDRAWN. WE WOULD URGE THAT US DELEGATION TO NAIROBI SUPPORT IAEA SUGGESTIONS.

5. CONCERN WAS ALSO EXPRESSED BY PERMREPS AT SOME OF THE RATHER BROAD PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN CHAPTER 6 - ENERGY, ON P. 96 OF DOCUMENT UNEP/GC/14/ADD.2. NONE OF THE PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE ACTION ON THE ENERGY CRISIS, E.G., A MEETING OF EXPERTS, CONSULTATION WITH "OTHER PRINCIPAL PARTIES," FORMULATION OF ACTION PROPOSALS, HAVE EVER BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CONSULTATION WITH THE IAEA. WHILE THE LEGITIMATE INTEREST OF UNEP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF SOURCES AND USES OF ENERGY WAS NOT QUESTIONED, A CONSENSUS OF OPINION DEVELOPED THAT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE ASKED TO REVIEW THESE PROPOSED UNEP ACTIONS CAREFULLY TO ASSURE THAT APPROPRIATE COORDINATION WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE UN FAMILY.

6. AGENCY'S COMMENTS ON UNEP DOCUMENTS NOT YET

FINISHED. WE WILL CABLE WHEN RECEIVED. TEXT OF FIRST
AGENCY CABLE SENT MARCH 6 FOLLOWS.

7. BEGIN TEXT: REPORT ON "THE STATE OF THE
ENVIRONMENT" PAGES 17 AND 28 OF DOCUMENT UNEP/GC/14/ADD.1
CONTAINS SECTION ON ENERGY. INsofar AS ENERGY
SOURCES ARE CONCERNED, THIS SECTION FOCUSES ALMOST
EXCLUSIVELY ON NUCLEAR ENERGY AND NUCLEAR ENERGY
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. ALTHOUGH WE NOTE THAT REPORT
DOES NOT NECESSAIRILY REFLECT YOUR VIEWS, IT IS DISTURBING,
AT A TIME WHEN STATESMEN AND PLANNERS REQUIRE A
BALANCED APPRAISAL OF THE ENERGY SITUATION, TO FIND IN
A UNEP DOCUMENT AN INCOMPLETE MISLEADING AND RATHER
ALARMIST PRESENTATION RELATING TO NUCLEAR ENERGY,
PARTICULARLY WITHOUT ANY PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH THE
COMPETENT UNITED NATIONS AGENCY. AS YOU KNOW
THERE IS NO CONSENSUS AT PRESENT EITHER ON THE MAGNITUDE
OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ENERGY PRODUCTION
IN THE NEXT 50 YEARS OR ON THE RELATIVE IMPACT OF
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES. ANY ASSESSMENT OF THE KIND
MADE IN THE QUOTED REPORT IS TO SAY THE LEAST PREMATURE.

IAEA IS AWARE OF LIMITATIONS AS WELL AS POTENTIAL
OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, AND OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS
OF BOTH NUCLEAR AND "CONVENTIONAL" SOURCES OF ENERGY
AND OF STEPS BEING TAKEN TO DEAL WITH THESE PROBLEMS.
IAEA HAS BEEN GIVING RESPONSIBLE ADVICE FOR SIXTEEN
YEARS TO ITS MEMBER NATIONS REGARDING INTRODUCTION
OF NUCLEAR POWER AND ITS VIEWS SHOULD HAVE BEEN SOUGHT
BEFORE PUTTING OUT THIS REPORT.

RECOMMEND THAT THIS SECTION OF REPORT BE WITH-
DRAWN FOR CONSULTATION OR THAT COMMENTS WHICH I SHALL
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SEND YOU IN NEXT TELEGRAM BE CIRCULATED TO GOVERNING
COUNCIL. I HAVE INSTRUCTED DIRGENS REPRESENTATIVE
MR. WOJCIK TO MAKE AGENCY'S VIEWS KNOWN TO THE GOVERNING
COUNCIL. END TEXT. PORTER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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